Will-Power and its Secret

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Come together; speak in harmony, and may your minds see alike, even as the gods of yore, in agreement, took their offerings.

Uniform be your deliberations and uniform be the result you achieve; uniform your mind and uniform your thought. A common prayer do I utter forth for you and a common oblation do I offer for you.

Same be your intention, same be your hearts; same may your minds be so that there might be complete unison amongst you.

Rigveda X.191.2-4.

No force can be created; it can only be directed. Therefore we must learn to control the grand powers that are already in our hands and by **will-power** make them spiritual instead of merely animal.

It is will that is the power. It is the man of strong will that throws, as it were, a halo round him and brings all other people to the same state of vibration as he has in his own mind. Such gigantic men do appear. And what is the idea? When a powerful individual appears, his personality infuses his thoughts into us, and many of us come to have the same thoughts, and thus we become powerful. Why is it that organisations are so powerful? Do not say organisation is material. Why is it, to take a case in point, that forty millions of Englishmen rule three hundred millions of people here? What is the psychological explanation? These forty millions put their wills together and that means infinite power, and you three hundred millions have a will each separate from the other. Therefore to make a great future in India, the whole secret lies in organisation, accumulation of power, co-ordination of wills.

Already before my mind rises one of the marvellous verses of the Rig-Veda Samhita which says, "Be thou all of one mind, be thou all of one thought, for in the days of yore, the gods being of one mind were enabled to receive oblations." That the gods can be worshipped by men is because they are of one mind. Being of one mind is the secret of society. And the more you go on fighting and quarrelling about all trivialities the further you are off from that accumulation of energy and power which is going to make the future India. For mark you, the future India depends entirely upon that. That is the secretaccumulation of will-power, co-ordination, bringing them all, as it were, into one focus. A handful of Japanese all think in the same way, and you know the result. That is how it goes throughout the history of the world. You find in

every case, compact little nations always governing and ruling huge unwieldy nations, and this is natural, because it is easier for the little compact nations to bring their ideas into the same focus, and thus they become developed. And the bigger the nation, the more unwieldy it is. Born, as it were, a disorganised mob, they cannot combine. All these dissensions must stop.

The gigantic will-powers of the world, the world-movers, can bring their Prana into a high state of vibration, and it is so great and powerful that it catches others in a moment, and thousands are drawn towards them, and half the world think as they do. Great prophets of the world had the most wonderful control of the Prana, which gave them tremendous will-power; they had brought their Prana to the highest state of motion, and this is what gave them power to sway the world. All manifestations of power arise from this control. Men may not know the secret, but this is the one explanation.

The fact is, what we call will is an inferior modification of something higher. Desirelessness means the disappearance of the inferior modification (of mind) in the form of will and the appearance of that superior state. That state is beyond the range of mind and intellect. .. That highest state--Mukti, or Nirvana, call it what you like--though out of the reach of the mind and intellect, is greater than the will and all other powers. It is no power, but power is its modification, therefore it is higher. Now you will see that the result of the proper exercise of the will, first with motive for an object and then without motive, is that the will-power will attain a much higher state.

Swami

Vivekananda